

State of North Carolina



MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

GRADUATION AWARENESS WEEK

2008

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, all students in North Carolina must graduate high school prepared with the knowledge, talent and skill demanded by jobs in the 21st century; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina leads the nation in innovative and creative high school reform efforts which include the nationally-acclaimed and award-winning *Learn and Earn* initiative that is working to increase the high school graduation and college going rates in the state; and

WHEREAS, there are now 60 *Learn and Earn* early college high schools across the state that offer students a chance to earn a free associate's degree or two years of college credit and their high school diploma in up to five years; and

WHEREAS, students at every public high school in the state can now earn two years of college credit or an associate's degree by taking free online courses through *Learn and Earn Online*; and

WHEREAS, state and local education leaders have worked with the North Carolina New Schools Project to open 42 smaller, redesigned high schools focusing on themes relevant to knowledge-based industries such as biotechnology, information technology, health sciences or engineering; and

WHEREAS, the University of North Carolina System, the North Carolina Community College System, PreK-12 public schools, businesses and nonprofits have formed an unprecedented partnership to give every student the opportunity to graduate high school prepared for success in college or a career in the global economy;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL F. EASLEY, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 7-13, 2008, as "**GRADUATION AWARENESS WEEK**" in North Carolina and call upon our citizens and interested groups to observe this week with appropriate activities to promote awareness of the need for all high school students to successfully graduate from high school to ensure a brighter future for them and for their families and communities.



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mike Easley".
MICHAEL F. EASLEY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this eighteenth day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand and eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-third.